

not removed from the measure, I am forced to oppose this entirely.

The government pension offset unfairly reduces the retirement benefits of public employees, our teachers who have dedicated their lives to serving their communities and our children. Many of those impacted expect to receive the Social Security benefits their spouses earned and often remain unaware of the offsets until they reach retirement age. Educators are shocked to learn that their decision to enter the education profession, often at a considerable financial sacrifice, has caused them to also lose the benefits that they had counted on. The resulting loss of income forces some into poverty and desperation.

I ask that we vote "no" on H.R. 743.

FAMILY CARE TAX CREDIT ACT

(Mr. RYUN of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, providing help to our working families is one of the main reasons I am in Washington today. I am proud of what we have accomplished, partial elimination of the marriage tax penalty, as well as expansion of the child tax credit; but I believe we should go a step further.

Currently, we give tax credit to families who pay for day care and other services, but families who have a parent taking care of their children are left on their own. That is why I have introduced the Family Care Tax Credit Act to give a fair and balanced approach to the child care tax credits by giving help to all middle-class families of children. Many parents in Kansas tell me that they would like to stay home with their children or to care for a loved one, but they cannot overcome the financial barriers caused by this tax bill. My plan would simply remove one of those barriers.

President Bush's economic stimulus package is a good start, but I think we could and should do more.

EXPANDED AND IMPROVED MEDICARE FOR ALL ACT

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, today the New York Times reported that 75 million people went without health insurance in 2001 or 2002. Our failing economy and rising health care costs are failing working families who make up the majority of uninsured Americans. While costs continue to go up, we are not getting what we are paying for. Government expenditures have accounted for 60 percent of total U.S. health care costs. Our government spends more money per person than countries that provide universal health care. Our citizens are so close to pay-

ing for a universal health care system, but so far from getting it.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and I have introduced a bill to ensure that all Americans have access to a universal high standard of medical care. This bill, Medicare for All, would help patients get the health care they need. It would help physicians, nurses, and other health professionals to get back to practicing medicine instead of filling out paperwork. I encourage my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 676, a bill to finally bring universal guaranteed quality health care to all Americans.

A TRIBUTE TO AN AMAZING MAN FROM LAKELAND, FLORIDA

(Mr. PUTNAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary man, a man who lived to see his wish come true. Lakeland's John McMorran, who passed away as the oldest-living American at the ripe old age of 113, got his wish to live in 3 centuries.

John McMorran, the fourth-oldest living person in the world, was born in a log cabin in Port Huron, Michigan, on June 19, 1889, the same year the Eiffel Tower was built. In 1990 he moved to Lakeland in my district to be near his family. The son of farmers, he held a variety of jobs until he retired at 84. He worked at a Detroit munitions factory earning a dollar a day during World War I. Kind, happy, hard working, well put together were just some of the words used to describe him. He is survived by a vast network of family and friends who loved him.

Madam Speaker, I believe John McMorran said it best himself. When asked what his secret was to long life, he responded by saying: "I drink a cup of coffee before every meal and I stay away from cheap whiskey."

God bless John and his family, Madam Speaker.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

(Mr. NADLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss a silent, yet deadly, epidemic facing the country: domestic violence. Every 9 seconds a woman is battered in the United States. In 2001, 80,000 women and children in New York State alone requested help from domestic violence programs, and these were only the documented cases. Many more cases go unmentioned as women, fearing to come forward, leave the assaults unreported.

The most common form of domestic abuse is physical; but many men abuse their wives and partners emotionally, sexually, and economically; and women are not the only victims. Between 3.3

and 10 million children annually witness the abuse that occurs between their parents, and so the domestic violence cycle is passed on from generation to generation.

For many years domestic violence has been viewed as a woman's problem, but that is not the case. Domestic violence is a woman's problem, a man's problem, the community's problem. The time is long overdue for men to take a stand and say that domestic violence is unacceptable. We must have full funding for the Violence Against Women Act to protect women who are victims. The President has said so, but his 2004 budget proposes a \$19 million cut in funding for domestic violence. We demand full funding for the Violence Against Women Act. We commend the groups who work so tirelessly to extend this message.

HONORING C.M. WILLIAMS

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today honoring an exceptional public servant from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Mr. C.M. Williams. Mr. Williams has served in local government for 40 years and as Stafford County administrator, a county with a population of more than 100,000, since 1984.

Mr. Williams has used his position well for the benefit of the Virginians that he serves. For example, he played a key role in preserving Virginia's historic treasures as executive officer of the George Washington Boyhood Home Foundation. Additionally, Mr. Williams was instrumental in obtaining funding for the Stafford Regional Airport, as well as in establishing the James Monroe Center for Graduate and Professional Studies at Mary Washington College.

Mr. Williams has long been a notable public servant and citizen, even serving as president of the Virginia Association of County Administrators. I commend him for his dedication to Virginia and wish him well in all that he pursues as he steps down to enjoy retirement.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about the importance of fully funding the Violence Against Women Act of 2000, otherwise known as VAWA.

Domestic violence is a crisis that plagues far too many families in our communities. In New York State alone, the State division of criminal justice service has received 55,558 police reports of family domestic violence offenses in 1999. This alarming number